

REMARKS

Claims 1-43 remain pending in the application.

The Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider earlier rejections in light of the following amendments and remarks. No new issues are raised nor is further search required as a result of the amendments and remarks made herein. Entry of the Amendment is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-43 over Milliken and Mangin

In the Office Action, claims 1-43 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being obvious over U.S. Patent No. 6,978,384 to Milliken ("Milliken") in view of U.S. Patent Appl. Pub. No. 2001/0017844 to Mangin ("Mangin"). The Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection.

Claims 1-43 recite **adjusting a size of a range** of acceptable nonce values within a **single** acceptance window or a **single** replay mask, where the **size of the range is based on a determined largest nonce value yet seen**.

Applicants' claims provide a solution for **OUT OF ORDER** messages. As discussed in detail below, Mangin fails to provide a solution for **OUT OF ORDER** messages, where a later message can have a nonce value smaller than a previously received message. Mangin's window size parameter lacks any relevance to a **determined largest nonce value yet seen**, as claimed.

The Examiner admits that "Milliken fails to explicitly disclose adjusting the size of the window based on the largest nonce value yet seen" (Office Action at page 3), but cites Mangin.

Mangin teaches at paragraph [0028]:

[0028] b) controlling a window size parameter contained in said acknowledgement segment on the basis of the difference between, firstly, a first context value associated with the TCP connection, defined as being the sequence number of the last segment that was transmitted from said given multiplexing node on the down link (sender to receiver) of the connection, to which the length of said segment is added and, secondly, the sequence number indicated in the acknowledgement segment;

The Examiner alleges that Mangin's last sequence number is the largest. (see Office Action, page 5, line 4) While this may be the case of Mangin,

for **OUT OF ORDER** messages, as claimed, the last sequence number can be smaller than a previously received sequence number. Mangin doesn't monitor a size of a nonce value to even know this. The Examiner's assumption that Mangin's last sequence number is always the largest may be true for **IN ORDER** messages, but **NOT** true for **OUT OF ORDER** messages.

Mangin fails to address **OUT OF ORDER** messages, much less provide a solution for **OUT OF ORDER** messages. It thus follows that Mangin fails to determine a largest nonce value yet seen, much less disclose, teach or suggest **adjusting** a size of a range of acceptable nonce values within a **single** acceptance window or a **single** replay mask, where the size of the range is based on a determined largest nonce value yet seen, as recited by all pending claims 1-43.

Mangin teaches, at best, control of a window size parameter based on the **difference** between sequence number of the last segment and, secondly, the sequence number indicated in the acknowledgement segment. But this is **NOT** a determination of a largest nonce value yet seen, much less **adjustment** of a size of a range of acceptable nonce values within a **single** acceptance window or a **single** replay mask based on such a value, as claimed.

Milliken and Mangin, either alone or in combination, fail to disclose, teach or suggest **adjusting** a size of a range of acceptable nonce values within a **single** acceptance window or a **single** replay mask, where the size of the range is based on a determined largest nonce value yet seen, as recited by claims 1-43.

A benefit of adjusting a size of range of acceptable nonce values within a **single** acceptance window or a **single** replay mask based on a determined largest nonce value yet seen is, e.g., to reduce confusion between sessions. Adjusting the size of a range of a **single** acceptance window or a **single** replay mask, such as when starting a new session or when resetting a nonce value, permits new advantages. For instance, a previous session's large nonce value may play havoc on a new session starting with small nonce values. When switching sessions to restrict acceptance of a previous session's large

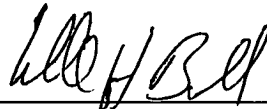
nonce values the inventors have discovered that there are advantages to narrow an acceptance window or replay mask. Then once a session is underway, it is found that a single acceptance window or a single replay mask should be increased to prevent unnecessary rejection of data associated with nonce values. The cited prior art fails to disclose or suggest the claimed features.

Accordingly, for at least all the above reasons, claims 1-43 are patentable over the prior art of record. It is therefore respectfully requested that the rejection be withdrawn.

Conclusion

All objections and rejections having been addressed, it is respectfully submitted that the subject application is in condition for allowance and a Notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



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